

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION**

RICKY L. WOODS,

Plaintiff,

v.

**COMMISSIONER
OF SOCIAL SECURITY,**

Defendant.

Case No. 2:20-cv-05718

JUDGE EDMUND A. SARGUS, JR.

Magistrate Judge Chelsey M. Vascura

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on the parties' Joint Motion for Attorney Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. (ECF No. 17.) The Court hereby **GRANTS** the parties' joint motion and awards Plaintiff EAJA fees of \$4,500.00 and costs of \$0.00, for a total award of \$4,500.00. Counsel for the parties shall verify whether Plaintiff owes a preexisting debt to the United States subject to offset, consistent with *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010). If no such pre-existing debt exists, Defendant shall pay the EAJA award directly to Plaintiff's counsel pursuant to the EAJA assignment signed by Plaintiff.

The case is to remain terminated on the docket of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

**10/15/2021
DATE**

**s/Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.
EDMUND A. SARGUS, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**